

Happy New Year The Elba Clipper

Volume 122, Number 31 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, December 27, 2018 1 Section, 10 Pages Plus 1 Adv Insert

Elba officially 'meets and greets' new public library director

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Jennifer Farris Amlong began work mid-November as the new library director for the Elba Public Library, and the community officially welcomed her last Thursday, Dec. 20, during a

"Meet and Greet" event held at the library.

A 1985 graduate of Elba High School, she said she is a "hometown girl coming back!"

Amlong previously worked for almost 20 years at the Tupper Lightfoot

Memorial Library in Brundidge, Ala. She began there part-time and worked with children and young adult programming before more recently taking on the role of assistant director for the past three years.

"I am very excited about

coming to home to Elba and implementing some of the same programs that I have done in Brundidge and even try some new things," said Amlong. "I

See LIBRARY, Page 3

Separate robbery incidents reported within minutes of each other Sunday in Elba

On Sunday, Dec. 23, prior to 6 a.m., the Elba Police Department received two reports within minutes of each other from two different individuals. Each said they had just been robbed.

According to the reports, one of the victims was outside his residence when he was approached and reportedly attacked by the suspects. As the suspects went through the trunk of the victim's vehicle, the victim fought back and received injuries. The suspects were said to have been armed with a handgun but did not fire it.

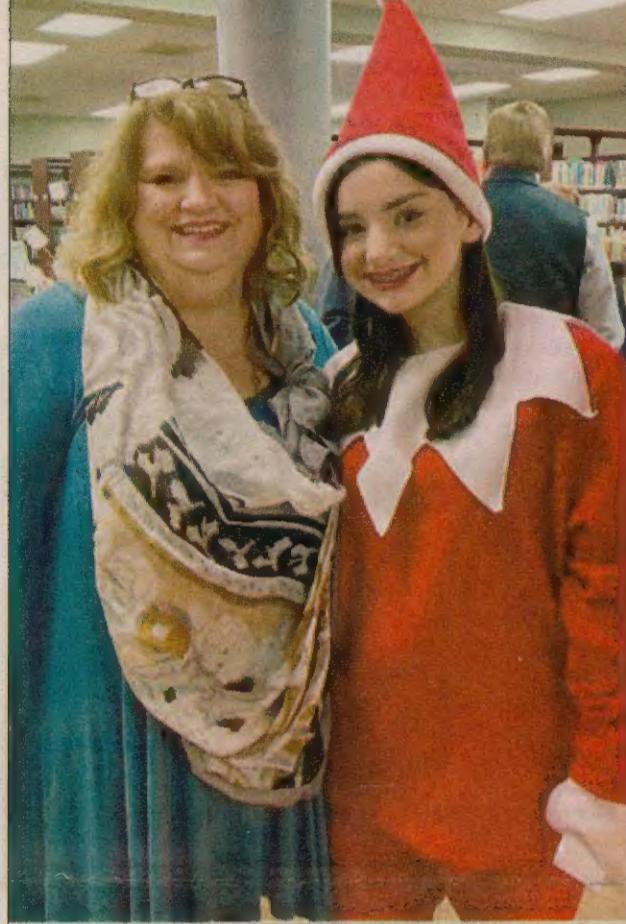
The suspects fled on foot with personal property of the victim.

In the second reported incident, which came into police dispatch only minutes after the first, the victims, two individuals, said they had their residence entered by the suspects without permission, and they were attacked and held at gunpoint.

The report indicated the victims fought back against the suspects and were able to disarm them. During the struggle over the gun, it discharged several times, but no one was hit by the gunfire.

The victims in this incident received minor injuries.

See ROBBERY, Page 3



Elfie of Elba was among those to stop by to meet and greet new Elba Public Library director Jennifer Amlong (left) last Thursday, Dec. 20th. A "Meet and Greet" reception was held from 1-3 p.m. last Thursday, and many Elba citizens and business professionals stopped in to talk with and get to know Amlong, as well as, wish her well in her new endeavor.

The Elba Volunteer Fire Department held its annual Christmas Party earlier this month, and several awards and recognitions were made during the event.

A special award presented each year is the "Firefighter of the Year" Award. This year's recipient was Caleb Walden. Fire Chief Drew Parker said Walden was deserving of the award because of all his hard work and dedication to the department throughout the year.

Walden named Elba Firefighter of the Year by his peers

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Elba School Board votes to make hires for special education

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba School Board made some personnel decisions at its regular December meeting held Tuesday evening, Dec. 18th.

Following the recommendations of Superintendent Chris Moseley the board accepted the resignation of second grade teacher Rene Patterson. Moseley explained she was resigning for family reasons.

Moseley had high praise for Patterson's work and it was echoed by a couple of board members.

Moseley recommended the hiring of two instructional aides at the elementary school. Linda Tillis has been working as a substitute teacher in the school and was approved for a full time position.

Darlene Burrow has moved to the area from Texas and has teaching experience as the pre-

school level. She will also be working as an instructional aide.

Also Vivian Willis was hired as a Special Ed teacher. Board members were told she has 14 years experience in schools and comes to Elba from the Coffee County System where she was working as an aide. She has recently completed her education degree.

The three new hires will be on board when teachers return to work on January 3rd.

Board members were updated on an upcoming review of the school system by AdvancedED. Board members will also be interviewed during the visit by the inspection team.

The superintendent updated the board on successes of students in various areas. Richmon Singletary set a state record and recently received a Class 1A 'Player of the Year' award, while a num-

ber of Elba band students earned Honor Band status.

The financial statement showed the school system managing to keep a reasonable reserve in operating accounts. Several categories did indicate expenses higher than income, but it was explained these were federally funded items and are only paid after the money has been expended and end-of-the-month requests are filed.

The lunchroom financial balance showed a drop from the previous month, which can be explained by timing on bulk purchases and billing by suppliers.

The vehicle chase Wednesday, Dec. 19, in Coffee County led to an Enterprise man being arrested on multiple outstanding warrants.

According to information released by the Coffee County Sheriff's Department, law enforcement attempted to make a traffic stop on County Road 114, in the northeastern part of the county, around 6:30 p.m. on the night of Dec. 19th; however, the driver of the vehicle, a white Ford Mustang,



The Elba Public Library is now home to this electronic rocking horse, and Elba Mayor Mickey Murdock got a ride last Thursday, Dec. 20, during the "Meet and Greet" event for new library director Jennifer Amlong. It's only 50 cents per ride, and the library is looking for help in naming the rocking horse.

Walden named Elba Firefighter of the Year by his peers

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Elba Fire Chief Drew Parker (left) presents the Firefighter of the Year award to Caleb Walden (right).



ELFIE DRAWS FOR CHAMBER CASH! The winner of the annual \$300 cash give-away from the Elba Chamber of Commerce was announced Friday, Dec. 21, as Elfie of Elba drew the winning name from a Christmas box (as shown above). The winner was Bobbie Colvin of Opp, Ala. For a couple of weeks leading up to the drawing, boxes with entry forms were on display at many Elba chamber member businesses for their customers to enter to win the \$300 as a thanks for shopping in Elba. Colvin reportedly was very excited to learn she had won the \$300 cash prize!

News Brief:

The Elba Parks and Recreation recently received news that it had been awarded a LWCF (Land and Water Conservation Fund) Grant.

This grant will allow the Elba Parks and Recreation to make improvements at Hawkins-Williams Park in Elba.

It is a matching grant with a total approximate value of \$320,000, according to Elba Parks and Recreation director Greg Hanchey.

refused to stop resulting in a chase.

"The vehicle proceeded on to Highway 167 towards Enterprise," Coffee County Sheriff's Deputy R.W. Whitworth said. "Spike stripes were deployed, and the Mustang was driven through the stripes which resulted in deflating the tires."

He said the driver lost control of the vehicle on Salem Road in Enterprise, and it hit a fuel truck out of Ft. Rucker and side-swiped another vehicle before

Area Happenings

THE CITY OF ELBA OFFICES will be closed Tuesday, Jan. 1, in observance of the New Year's Day holiday. For utility outages during this time, call the Elba Police Department at 334-897-2555. Garbage services will not run on Monday, Dec. 31, but will resume on Tuesday, Jan. 1; therefore, those with a pick-up day of Monday should have garbage ready on Tuesday this week.

NOTICE:

The Elba Clipper office will be closed Tuesday, Jan. 1, in observance of the New Year's Day holiday.

All news and advertising for the Jan. 3rd edition of the newspaper is due to the office before 5 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 28th.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

"Try not to become a man of success, but rather try to become a man of value." - Albert Einstein

Well Christmas is over for another year and hopefully all our readers survived and have added a double handful of good items to their ever growing memory bank. Now our immediate family has delayed our annual gathering until Saturday, the 29th. Now that happens to also be the date of a certain important football game . . . well important to a whole bunch of Alabama supporters. Ever the detail planner, our daughter Michele announced last week that this family Christmas seasonal event needs to get going on time and finish early – thus allowing a couple of alpha males to get to their personal recliners and TVs before the 7:00 p.m. game start. The reason for this is that throughout the game they each 'discuss' the plays and other coaching decisions with the head coach, sharp shoot the game officials (in spite of what the replay cameras show) and brow-beat the players of the opposing team for cheap blocks. Needless to say, all this needs to be done out of earshot of more gentle ears. Wish us luck!

Government shutdown has hit the U. S. . . again. Estimates are that as many as 800,000 government workers are without pay. Some will (or maybe are required) to keep working and hope their groceries will not run out before another payday – a payday that has no set time to appear. We can accept that there are differing opinions between the president and the Legislature as there always has been. However, we bristle when one side or the other gets in front of the TV cameras and vows to get their way – or else "I will shut down the government." Labor relations laws forbid a private company from doing something like that, but clearly it doesn't apply to the feds. Several years ago there was talk that such a shutdown would delay the millions of social security checks but that didn't happen. It would probably have provoked a bunch of the nations senior citizens to demonstrate that much of 'The Greatest Generation' isn't dead yet! We suspect the Washington crowd knew this and decreed that they didn't mean the SS checks when they ordered a shutdown.

NOTE! Last week we had just finished typing the tidbit about careful driving around the bypass construction work when the police monitor sounded off about another wreck at a bypass intersection! So we repeat the words of caution. Be careful. It is not just us regular Joes that can mess up. A couple of weeks ago we saw a deputy sheriff turn into the wrong lane at the intersection of Claxton and the bypass. Each driver should take that as an omen that none of us are immune to making a mistake and be even more careful.

The Elba Clipper

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$21 per year
6 Months - \$11, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$24 per year - including tax
6 months - \$13
Outside Alabama - \$27 per year - 6 months - \$15

~ U.S. COULD BE FACING FINANCIAL RUIN ~

Guest Editorial by Daniel Sutter, Troy University

Is the Federal government spending us into financial ruin? The current numbers and budget projections suggest so. Yet I think that the scary numbers reflect an unresolved conflict over the role of government more than a threat of bankruptcy.

The national debt of the United States, the accumulated borrowing since the Republic's founding, stands at \$21.85 trillion. The deficit, or amount borrowed to cover spending in excess of tax revenues, for fiscal year 2018 was \$780 billion.

A sense of magnitude is difficult to maintain once we get into the "billions" – meaning millions, billions, and trillions. A good way to size up Federal red ink is as a percentage of U.S. GDP, the value of all the goods and services produced in a year, which is currently \$20.1 trillion. So 2018's deficit and the national debt are 3.9 and 109 percent of GDP respectively.

A second debt figure, the debt held by the public, confuses the matter. What is the difference? Some Federal government agencies hold debt, including Social Security and the military and civilian pension plans. As this debt is sometimes described as "owed to our-

selves," some experts focus on debt held by the public, which is currently \$16 trillion (78 percent of GDP).

Which measure matters more? Debt held by the public is the amount the U.S. Treasury borrows in global credit markets. Interest rates are prices adjusting to bring demands for borrowing – by businesses and households in addition to government – into line with the supply of funds from savers and investors. Publicly-held debt potentially crowds out productive investment.

The intra-government debt is also real. The \$800 billion the Treasury has borrowed from the Department of Defense's pension program is supposed to pay retirement benefits, but was used for other Federal spending. If not repaid, military pensions would need to be paid out of current taxes.

Does the national debt spell inevitable bankruptcy?

Warren Buffett has observed that the debt is not necessarily a problem because it was higher relative to GDP at the end of World War II. Mr. Buffett's observation highlights the importance of budget projections. We borrowed to fight World War II, and investors expected spending to decline precipitously

after the war. It did, and debt fell below 40 percent of GDP during the 1950s.

By contrast, spending is expected to increase significantly in the future. The most recent Congressional Budget Office (CBO) 30-year forecast projects Federal spending to increase from 20.6 to 27.9 percent of GDP. An aging population using more medical care will increase spending on Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. The CBO expects debt held by the public to reach 152 percent of GDP by 2048. This will be uncharted territory for the U.S. and could trigger a debt cycle through rising interest rates.

Will debt at 150 percent of GDP mean bankruptcy? Perhaps. Greece has teetered on the verge of bankruptcy with debt at 180 percent of GDP. But Japan remains sound despite debt at 220 percent of GDP.

Debate over insolvency obscures a common assumption that tax revenues will not rise significantly. The CBO, for instance, projects Federal revenues of 19.5 percent of GDP in the 2040s, only three percentage points higher than today. A Cato Institute analysis of fiscal imbalance kept tax revenue

at current levels.

Potential Federal insolvency demonstrates that we cannot afford a European-style welfare state without European-style taxes. This tension, I think, goes back to Ronald Reagan, who pursued tax cuts even though his desired spending cuts proved politically unachievable. Reagan set Federal spending on a collision course with our distaste for taxes, likely hoping that his tax cuts would eventually force spending cuts. Maintaining Social Security and Medicare as they are given demographic changes will require paying more taxes.

I am not advocating for higher taxes and would prefer downsizing government. We cannot, however, afford a Cadillac on the payments for a Chevy and will soon have to decide whether we are truly willing to pay for big government.

** Daniel Sutter is the Charles G. Koch Professor of Economics with the Manuel H. Johnson Center for Political Economy at Troy University and host of *Econversations on TrojanVision*. The opinions expressed in this column are the author's and do not necessarily reflect the views of Troy University.

Ragin Berry completes political science studies

Ragin Berry, a graduate of Enterprise High School, completed her studies in political science at Huntingdon College on December 7, 2018.

After the completion of her studies Ragin left on a week-long school sponsored senior trip to Ireland.

While at Huntingdon Ragin was actively involved in the following activities: AOTT, Student Recruiter, Orientation Leader, SGA, Panhellenic Executive Council, Freshman Leadership Initiative Mentor, Political Science Club, Voice of Justice, Order of Omega Honor Society, Gamma Sigma Alpha Honor Society, Sigma Tau Delta Honor Society and Joyce and Truman Hobbs Honors.

Ragin was a member of the Homecoming Court during her Junior and Senior years.

She will receive her diploma on May 11, 2019 during commencement exercises.

Ragin is the daughter of Kim and Ginny Berry of Enterprise, and the granddaughter of Larry and Debbie Walters of Enterprise and Harold and Lynda Berry of Elba.



Ragin Berry

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, Dec. 17, made the following arrests: one for possession of narcotics, one for possession of drug paraphernalia, one for public intoxication, one for attempting to elude, one for possession of a controlled substance, three arrests on warrants, and two arrests made Sunday on 10 total felony charges.

There were 16 traffic citations and 32 traffic warnings issued by Elba Police officers during the timeframe of Dec. 17th – Dec. 23rd.

MONDAY, DEC. 17 – Officers out with suspicious vehicle in area of Hwy 84 and Hwy 125 – vehicle tagged to be towed in 72-hours if not moved (10:21 a.m.); Verbal disturbance reported in area of Lee St (12:32 p.m.); Haynes Ambulance requested officer assistance with unruly patient (5:24 p.m.); Haynes Ambulance requested officer assistance in reference to possible alcohol poisoning in area of Brunson Circle – subject transported to local hospital (8:44 p.m.).

TUESDAY, DEC. 18 – Report of possible altercation in area of Taylor Crossings parking lot (2:52 a.m.); Two-vehicle accident with possible injuries and road blockage reported in area of Hwy 203 Bypass near Beaver Dam Apts –

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 19 – Report of a person causing a scene at the Travel Center – officers advised subject to get off the property (3:26 a.m.); One vehicle wreck reported on Hwy 87 – no injuries or road blockage (6:48 a.m.); Report of children taking bricks from a condemned house on Morrow Ave – officers arrived and had children return the property (2:18 p.m.).

THURSDAY, DEC. 20 – Report of unwanted guest on Forrest Ave (9:31 a.m.); Report of suspicious person at cemetery on Hwy 84 – one arrest made for public intoxication (2:06 p.m.); Vehicle vs building accident reported on Factory Ave (6:29 p.m.); Verbal domestic dispute reported

on Johnson St. (7:40 p.m.).

FRIDAY, DEC. 21 – Report of suspicious vehicle in area of National Security and Hwy 84 (2:03 a.m.); Officers out in area of E Davis St in reference to subject possibly having alcohol poisoning – subject transported to an area hospital (1:36 p.m.); Vandalism reported in area of Ann St (3:09 p.m.); Report of suspicious male subject coming out of the woods in area of Hwy 166 (4:51 p.m.).

SATURDAY, DEC. 22 – Possible burglary reported on a residence on Beaverdam St (1:13 a.m.); Suspicious vehicle reported on Troy Hwy in area of old Bargain Time (2:48 a.m.); Theft reported from Elba Gulf Travel Center (2:50 a.m.); Officers dispatched to assist Haynes Ambulance personnel with combative patient at a residence on Kendrick St (9:04 a.m.); Vandalism reported at a church on Martin Luther King Dr (2:25 p.m.).

SUNDAY, DEC. 23 – Robbery report in area of Reynolds Ave (5:53 a.m.); Robbery reported at a residence on West St (6:04 a.m.); Single vehicle accident (vs deer) reported (8:05 p.m.).

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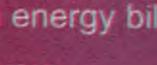


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Obituaries

Death notices updated regularly on our website at www.elba-clipper.com

LOU ANN BRYAN

Mrs. Lou Ann Bryan, age 65, a resident of the Pine Level Community, died peacefully Wednesday, Dec. 19, 2018, at her home.

Funeral services were held at Mt. Olive Baptist Church on Friday, Dec. 21, 2018, with Rev. Olan Strickland and Rev. Ben Amlong officiating. Burial followed in the Pine Level Community Cemetery under the direction of Hayes Funeral Home.

The family asks those wishing to make memorials to do so to Mt. Olive Baptist, c/o 93 County Road 355, Elba, Alabama 36323.

Survivors include her husband of 47 years: Hubert Ray Bryan; a daughter: Emily (Hunter) Everheart, Elba; son: Brett (Nicki) Bryan, Brantley, Ala.; granddaughter: Elin Everheart, Elba; grandson: Payne Bryan, Brantley; sister: Donna Murdock, Spicewood, Texas; and sister-in-law: Brenda Hyatt, Ozark, Ala.

DELA THA WYNELL RAYBURN CHRISTIAN

Mrs. Delatha Wynell Rayburn Christian, age 86, of Brantley, Ala., died Saturday, Dec. 22, 2018, at Luverne Health & Rehab Center in Luverne, Ala.

She was the daughter of the late Walter and Fannie Bryan Rayburn. She graduated from Elba High School and attended Birmingham Business College. She married H. D. Christian of Senecaville, Ohio, who was stationed at Fort Benning, Ga. Following the death of her husband, she returned to Crenshaw County and reared her four young children.

Funeral services were held Sunday, Dec. 23, at Hayes Funeral Home Chapel in Elba. Burial followed at Pine Level community cemetery under the direction of Hayes funeral Home. Contributions may be made to one's favorite charity.

She was preceded in death by her husband, H.D. Christian, a daughter, Vickie Christian, a son, Frankie Christian, and a great-granddaughter, Civanna Christian.

Survivors include three children: Ricky (Gloria)

LIBRARY

(Continued from Page ONE)

look forward to partnering with other community organizations to create a library that is a vital part of this community, and working together will help grow our city."

Survivors include his four children: Lindsey Smith Eldred (husband, Tyler), Rachel Smith, and Reagan Smith, all of Enterprise, Ala.; son: Garrett James Smith, Elba; a brother: Danny Smith, Elba; sister: Delisa Smith Boswell (husband, Keith), Montgomery, Ala.; along with two nephews: Brannon Boswell, New York, NY, and Blake Boswell, Arlington, Va.

Arlington, VA 22202 in memory of Dennis.

Survivors include his four children: Debbie Christian, Brantley; grandchildren: Noel Christian, Wetumpka, Ala., Paul Christian, Brantley, Daina Manley, Sandwich, Mass., Emily Sullivan, Geneva, Kimberly Ward, Hattiesburg, Miss., and Kristi Rinker, Montgomery, Ala.; along with numerous great-grandchildren; one sister: Merlene Carlisle, and a brother: Max Rayburn, both of Brantley.

Services were held at Mt. Olive Baptist Church on Friday, Dec. 21, 2018, with Rev. Olan Strickland and Rev. Ben Amlong officiating. Burial followed in the Pine Level Community Cemetery under the direction of Hayes Funeral Home.

The family asks those wishing to make memorials to do so to Mt. Olive

Baptist, c/o 93 County Road 355, Elba, Alabama 36323.

Survivors include her

husband of 47 years: Hubert Ray Bryan; a

daughter: Emily (Hunter)

Everheart, Elba; son: Brett

(Nicki) Bryan, Brantley,

Ala.; granddaughter: Elin

Everheart, Elba; grandson:

Payne Bryan, Brantley; sis-

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LIFESTYLES

Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe set to meet January 6th

There will be a meeting for the Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama on Sunday, January 6, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. The meeting will be at 64 Private Road 1312 Elba, Alabama 36323 (GPS 2950 County Road 377, Elba, Alabama 36322).

Items to be discussed include: Scholarship, WIOA (Work Experience and Class Room Training), Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Community Service Block grants, grants applying for Economic Development and Language.

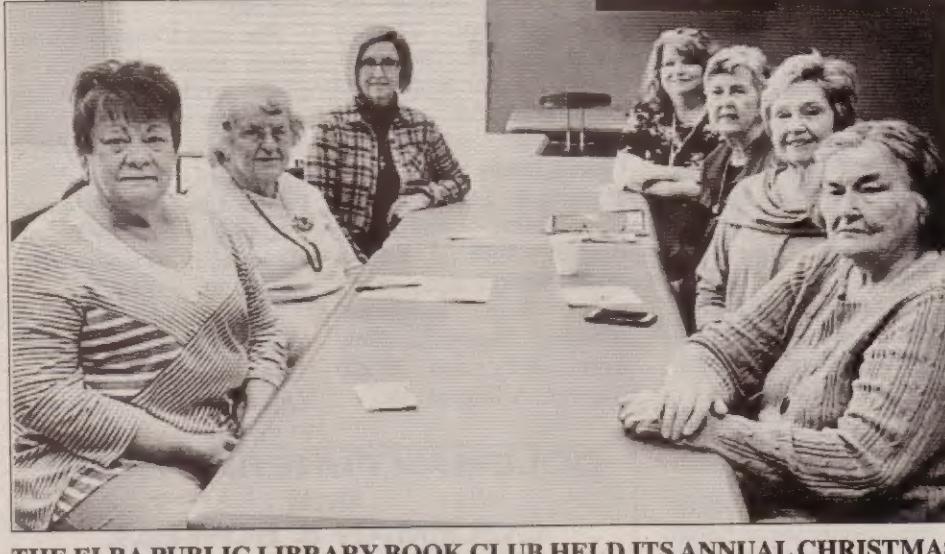
Census 2020, Pow Wow and opening the Tribal

Rolls plus Indian Education for the local school system.

Call Chief James Wright at 334-897-3207 with any questions.

Stay connected in downtown Elba

Stay online while enjoying the outdoors in Elba's Main Street Community Space. The initial Wi-Fi deployment is on the Clements Corner of Court Square, a premier gathering place and venue for resting, visiting, studying, and events.



THE ELBA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOK CLUB HELD ITS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY recently. In attendance were club members Ella Kate Ham, Joan Ward, Betty Rogers, Mary Grider, Betsy Watson, and Nell Gilmer. Also attending was Elba's new library director, Jennifer Amlong, who spoke of some of her plans for the library, such as creating a 'Friends of the Library' group. Amlong said she is making space for a history/reference room; already moving books to shelves in this area. During the party, Christmas goodies were served to club members and library staff.

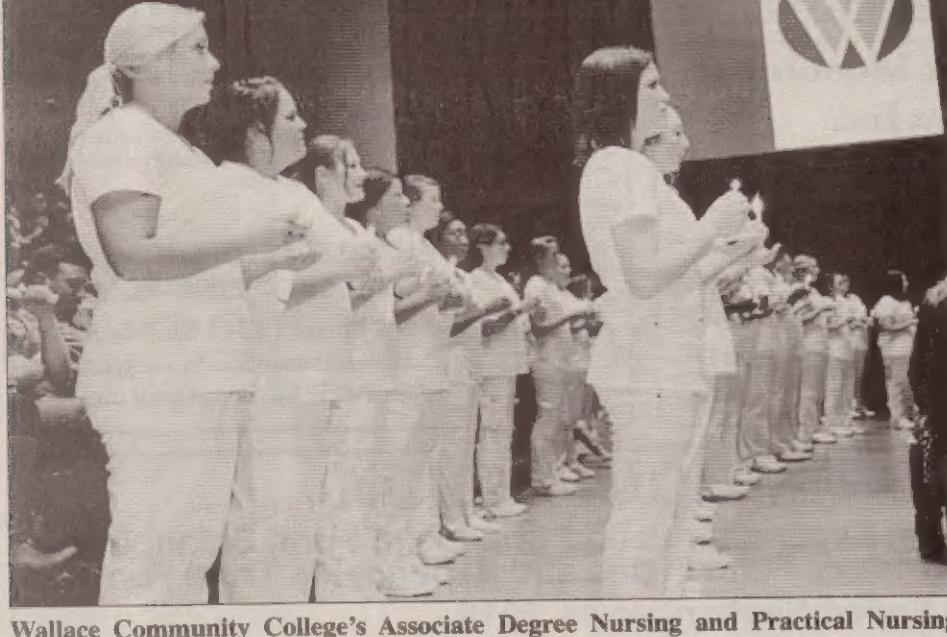
Elba Head Start accepting apps for school year

Elba Head Start is accepting applications for the 2018-2019 school year.

Head Start is a comprehensive early education program that serves children ages 3 to 5 and including children with mild to severe disabilities. For more information call (334) 897-2814 or (334) 897-5417 Ext. 310 or (347) 566-1712.

Application packages can be picked up at 145 Tiger Drive, Elba. Elba Head Start is located in the Elba Elementary School.

Teachers and staff return to school from Christmas break on Jan. 3rd. Students return Jan. 7th.



Wallace Community College's Associate Degree Nursing and Practical Nursing graduates received their nursing pins and participated in the traditional candle lighting ceremony at the Dothan Civic Center on December 14. Graduates take the Nurses' Pledge before beginning their healthcare careers.

Wallace honors Fall 2018 nursing graduates

Wallace Community College – Dothan recently conferred credentials upon fall 2018 graduates of the associate degree and practical nursing programs.

The graduates, who represent students from the Sparks Campus in Eufaula and the Wallace Campus in Dothan, will help fill employment gaps in the local healthcare workforce. Since the first graduating class in 1953, the practical nursing program has produced over 4,000 graduates. The associate degree program has graduated over 4,400 nurses since the initial 1971 class.

In addition to 116 nursing

graduates, 23 students have graduated this academic year (2018-2019) from the College's Allied Health programs, including Emergency Medical Services, Assisting, Physical Therapist Assistant, Radiologic Technology, and Respiratory Therapist.

Since the inaugural graduating class in 1953, health programs at Wallace Community College have combined to place almost 14,200 healthcare graduates into the workforce of the Wiregrass area. Wallace continues to enroll large numbers of prospective allied health and nursing students each semester. More than 40% of the College's total student enrollment is registered in health sciences or pre-health sciences courses. The nursing programs are approved by the Alabama Board of Nursing and are fully accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).

Local Area Graduates of the practical nursing program are: Elba: Tory Daniels.

Local Area Graduates of the associate degree nursing program are: Brantley: Shayna

Witherington, Prescott; Elba: Cammie Athelle McCollough; and Jack: Kelli Deanea Behrens.

WCC names honor students for Fall 2018

Wallace Community College recently announced the President's and Dean's lists for fall term 2018. Students awarded to the President's list must have completed a minimum of 12 semester hours with a grade point average of 4.0. Eligibility for the Dean's list is based on a GPA of 3.5 or higher, with a minimum of 12 semester hours.

Local area students named to the fall 2018 President's list are:

Jack: Elizabeth L. Wheat;

Local area students named to the fall 2018 Dean's list are:

Elba: Caleb Hunter Stewart; New Brockton:

Catherine Hope Mynard,

Makenzie Leigh Parker and

Colin Andrew Watkins.

Got Something to Sell?
Try The Classified Section of The Elba Clipper



DONATION TO SHERIFF'S OFFICE...Woodmen of the World Chapter 1932 presented this flagpole and flag to the Coffee County Sheriff's Office on 9/11 of this year. Shown making the presentation to Coffee County Sheriff Dave Sutton on behalf of the Chapter is Woodmen Life marketing representative Linda Westbrook. Also pictured is Captain Michael Hines of the Sheriff's Department.

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DEC. 28TH,
BEFORE 5 P.M.**

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Thomas Clark and Cathy Odom are shown with a wreath that was placed on a veterans grave at Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church cemetery during the Wreath Across America event held Saturday, Dec. 15th.

The salute to the Christian flag was given followed by the pledge to the flag of the United States of America. Georgia Fleming led the group in singing the Star-Spangled Banner.

Fleming, president of the Rucker Chapter, added her welcome and gave a short talk encouraging those in attendance to be the legacy for their ancestors by passing along family stories and family history to future generations.

Small flags were placed in the wreath at the front of the church beginning with the flag of the United States. Other flags were placed in the wreath for each branch of military service. Many of those placing the flags had served in that branch of service.

Odom then read the names of the known veterans buried in the cemetery. As she read the names, any family members present were encouraged to stand and tell their relationship to the veteran. After listing the names those in attendance went outside to place wreaths on the graves.

There were approximately 35 known veterans to have wreaths placed on their graves.

Following the placing of the wreaths, McCrae's Flying Artillery gave a Canon salute and the ceremony ended with the playing of Taps.

Odom invited those in attendance into the church fellowship hall for a snack lunch and a celebration of the 199th birthday of Alabama. There was a beautiful birthday cake decorated as the Alabama state flag as well as sandwiches, chili, hot cocoa, coffee and punch.

Prior to the beginning of lunch, the salute was given to the Alabama flag with the singing of the state song Alabama. A salute was also given to the Confederate flag and Dixie's Land was sung. Grace was given and lunch and fellowship were enjoyed.

CHURCH & COMMUNITY NEWS

PASTOR'S CORNER

Diana White
PASTOR
COVENANT COMMUNITY CHURCH

THE DAYS AFTER CHRISTMAS

Don't take down your tree! Don't undock the halls! Wait! The Holidays are not over yet! Christmas doesn't end until Epiphany! Epiphany! Epiphany or Three Kings' Day is celebrated around the world each year on January 6 and commemorates The Magi Visiting Jesus and bringing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

In The United States, we love to shove all of our celebrations together and make the shepherds bump into "The Wise Men" as they all crowd our Nativity scenes at the same time. However, The Story of The Magi is not a part of the Nativity, but rather a continuation of the story. The Magi came from The East to follow The Star and the Jewish prophecy of a Jewish king being born.

King Herod, the king of The Jews, seemed unfamiliar with this prophecy when these travelers from The East approached him. He quickly familiarized himself with the details, not because he wanted to go see a prophecy fulfilled and not because he was interested in worshipping the infant king. He became interested in his own faith tradition's prophecy because he felt threatened. He suddenly heard people inquiring him about the location of "The King of the Jews" when last he checked, he held that title. Herod felt his power threatened. He quickly plotted to have his opponent eliminated. The story continues that Herod tried to manipulate the Magi to give him the intel about where this exceptional child was.

The Magi, after hearing a message from God, did not go back to Herod with the location of Jesus. Instead, they traveled home another route. Herod, lost his mind when he found out the Magi were not coming through for him. He, in his selfishness, pride and wickedness decreed that all baby boys of a certain age be killed in order to secure his throne.

The Day of the Holy Innocents commemorates this tragic event each year on December 28. Some Christians consider these young boys that were killed by Herod's soldiers to be the first Christian martyrs. The day has become a day of fasting and mourning not just remembering those lost 2,000 years ago, but also the young and powerless today that loose their lives as expendable pawns in the selfish pursuits of power and acquisition.

God let us be better than this. Help us to protect the innocent, keep them safe, sway our hearts from pursuits that harm, neglect and disregard children here and in distant places. Amen

Wildflowers

322 Buford Street
Elba, AL 36323
897-3010
www.WildflowersElba.com

Harris Temple COGIC announces upcoming holiday events/activities

On Monday, Dec. 31, Harris Temple COGIC will have its Watch Night Service beginning at 10 p.m. This service is free and open to the public. Immediately following the Harris Temple Watch Night Service, the ACTS

Ministries COGIC will host a New Year's Eve Celebration on Tuesday morning, Jan. 1, from 12-2 a.m. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 5-12. There will be special pricing for a family of five or more.

Cost-share program available for Alabama specialty crop producers

Alabama specialty crop farmers can apply for a cost-share program through the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries that helps farmers offset the cost of training to improve food-handling safety.

The cost-share program will reimburse farmers who successfully pass a Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Good Handling Practices (GHP) certification program. Reimbursements cover 75 percent of the program cost, up to \$500 per year.

GAP and GHP audits are voluntary inspections that

evaluate how fruits and vegetables are produced, packed, handled and stored. The goal is to ensure food is produced in the safest manner possible to minimize risks of microbial food safety hazards.

Funds for this program are provided through the U.S. Department of Agriculture Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, which awarded \$25,000 for Alabama producers. Funds will be distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis, until the funds are depleted, according to ADAI officials.

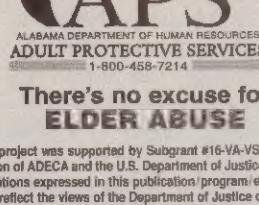
Bob Bush, DVM
Veterinary Express of South Alabama
Small Animal Medicine & Surgery
334-343-0408 • 582-2255 (Call)
Intersection of Claxton Ave & Simmons St
(across from the Elba Service Center)
Jan. 9 & Jan. 23 Hours: 10 am - 2 pm

1 OUT OF 10 ELDERLY PERSONS AND ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES ARE BEING: Abused, Neglected or Exploited

If you suspect this is happening to someone you know, please report it to Adult Protective Services by contacting your local DHR office or calling the

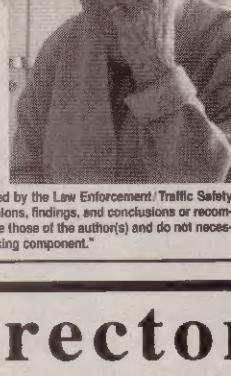
ADULT ABUSE HOTLINE at 1-800-458-7214

HELP STOP THE ABUSE IF YOU SEE IT, REPORT IT

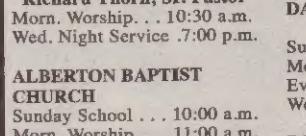


This project was supported by Subgrant #16-VA-VS-076 awarded by the Law Enforcement/Traffic Safety Division of ADECA and the U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice or grant-making component.

**There's no excuse for
ELDER ABUSE**



Church Directory



COVENANT COMMUNITY CHURCH

Diana White, Pastor

Bible Study 9:00 a.m.
Fellowship 9:45 a.m.
Worship 10:00 a.m.
Wed. Night (Youth Real Deal and Children's Activities) 6:00 p.m.

DAMASCUS BAPT. CHURCH

Steve Watson, Pastor

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.

Even. Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Sam Self, Pastor

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.

Even. Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Rev. Deborah A. Butler, Pastor

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.

Even. Worship 5:30 p.m.

Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

ABUNDANT LIFE CHURCH SAMSON, Ala.

Richard Thorn, Sr. Pastor

Sund. Worship 10:30 a.m.

Wed. Night Service 7:00 p.m.

ALBERTON BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.

Even. Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship 11:30 a.m.

Wed. Bible Class 6:30 p.m.

BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship 10:00 a.m.

Disciple Train 5:30 p.m.

Even. Worship 6:30 p.m.

BLUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

Tom Senn, Pastor

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.

Even. Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wed. Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.

BROOKLYN BAPT CHURCH

Robert Davis, Pastor

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.

Even. Worship 6:00 p.m.

CHESTNUT GROVE METHODIST

Rev. Remonial Smith

Church Service 9:00 a.m.

2nd & 4th Sundays

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

2nd & 4th Sundays

CORNERSTONE BIBLE CHURCH

Larry Mills-Pastor

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

Wed. Night 7:00 p.m.

ELBA ZION BAPT. CHURCH

Lovell Martin, Pastor

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.

Even. Service 6:00 p.m.

Wed. Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

ELBA ZION BAPT. CHURCH

Mark Cooper, Pastor

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.

Even. Service 6:30 p.m.

Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

ELBA ZION BAPT. CHURCH

Shirlee Ellis, Pastor

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.

Even. Service 6:00 p.m.

Wed. Prayer Service 7:00 p.m.

ELBA ZION BAPT. CHURCH

Lovell Martin, Pastor

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.

Even. Service 6:30 p.m.

Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

ELBA ZION BAPT. CHURCH

Mark Cooper, Pastor

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.

Even. Service 6:30 p.m.

Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

ELBA ZION BAPT. CHURCH

Mark Cooper, Pastor

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.

Even. Service 6:30 p.m.

Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

ELBA ZION BAPT. CHURCH

Mark Cooper, Pastor

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.

Even. Service 6:30 p.m.

Wed. Even. Meeting 7:00 p.m.

ELBA ZION BAPT. CHURCH

Mark Cooper, Pastor

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship 11:00 a.m.

Even. Service 6

CLASSIFIEDS

The Elba Clipper

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THE UNIVERSITY of Alabama, College of Continuing Studies seeks a qualified Safety Consultant - 507913 for UA SafeState, Alabama's 21(d) OSHA Consultation Program to provide independent, routine safety consultation services, including onsite visits to businesses and industries in Alabama. Job close date 01/11/2019. Visit UA's employment website at staffjobs.ua.edu for more information and to apply. The University of Alabama is an equal-opportunity employer (EOE) including an EOE of protected vets and individuals with disabilities.

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In observance
of New Year'sDay,
The Elba Clipper
office will beclosed Tuesday,
Jan. 1st!

All Ads and News

are due to the

office by 5 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 28,

for next week's

paper!

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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Coffee County Highway Department

Mechanic's Helper

Duties: Perform tire repairs, minor maintenance and services on various motorized vehicles and assist with repairs to heavy construction equipment and other duties as assigned. Experience Preferred. Qualifications: Valid Driver's License. Fringe Benefits: Paid Vacation, Sick Leave, Health Insurance, Holidays, and State Retirement. Starting Salary: \$10.86. Closing Date: January 4, 2019

Please apply www.coffeecounty.us.

Coffee County is an Equal Opportunity Employer

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Coffee County Highway Department

Laborer

Job Description: Provide general labor and support for road maintenance and repair and other various duties. No Experience Required. Qualifications: Valid Driver's License, must be physically fit to handle various flagman tasks and other duties. Requires standing for long periods. Fringe Benefits: Paid Vacation, Sick Leave, Health Insurance, Holidays, and State Retirement. Starting Salary is \$8.96 per hour. Closing Date: January 4, 2019

Please apply www.coffeecounty.us.

Coffee County is an Equal Opportunity Employer

PUBLIC NOTICES:

All Elba Clipper Public Notices are posted on the websites: www.elba-clipper.com and www.alabamapublicnotices.com for no extra chargeIN THE PROBATE
COURT OF COFFEE
COUNTY, ALABAMA

CASE # PC-2018-084

In Re: The Estate of
Ruth Ellen Ingram,
Deceased

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that
Letters Testamentary having
been granted to James
Oscar Coles III, as
Executor of the Estate of
Ruth Ellen Ingram,Deceased on the 15th day
of October 2018, by the
Honorable Steven E. Blair.NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN that all persons
having claims against the
said Estate are hereby
required to present the same
within the time allowed by
law or the same will be
barred.Done this the 17th day of
December, 2018/s/ Steven E. Blair
Steven E. Blair
Probate Judge

12-20,27,1-3 - chg

, 2018
Charleston, South Carolina29407
Phone: (843) 900-1306
Fax: (800) 861-3096
E-mail: jay@mcmillianlawsc.com

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFFS

12/27-1/3 & 10-chg

IN THE PROBATE
COURT OF COFFEE
COUNTY, ALABAMAIN RE: THE ESTATE OF
LOUIE H. RACHEL,
DeceasedC.A. NO.: 2018-DR-18-
1342

CASE NO: PC 2018-086

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that
Letters Testamentary having
been granted to Howard
Brent Rachel, as Executor
of the Estate of Louie H.
Rachel, Deceased on the
20th day of October 2018,by the Honorable Steven E.
Blair.NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN that all persons
having claims against the
said Estate are hereby
required to present the same
within the time allowed by
law or the same will be
barred./s/ Howard Brent Rachel
Howard Brent Rachel
Executor of the
Estate of Louie H. Rachel
Deceased

12/27,1-3,10-pd

NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS
ABOVE-NAMED:IN THE PROBATE
COURT OF COFFEE
COUNTY, ALABAMAIN RE: THE ESTATE OF
JEAN D. MOORE,
Deceased

CASE NO: PC 2018-085

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
TO BE PUBLISHED BY ADMINISTRATOR
OR EXECUTORLetters Testamentary of
said deceased having been
granted to the undersigned
the 13th day of December,
2018, by the Hon. Steven
E. Blair, Judge of the
Probate Court of Coffee
County, notice is hereby
given that all persons having
claims against said estate
are hereby required to present
the same within the time
allowed by law or the same
will be barred./s/ Mathalyn J. Farris,
Personal Representative
12/20,27 & 1/3-pdLetters Testamentary of
said deceased having been
granted to the undersigned
the 13th day of December,
2018, by the Hon. Steven
E. Blair, Judge of the
Probate Court of Coffee
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allowed by law or the same
will

COMMUNITY NEWS

SANTA VISITS NEW HOPE SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER!

On Thursday, Dec. 20, Santa (Mr. Mack Ward) made a stop at the New Hope Senior Center during the annual Christmas Party. Gifts were exchanged as well as food, fun and fellowship. Pictured below (top to bottom) are Pensy Brown (scarf), Joyce Lee (reindeer ears) and Agnes Ragan (black sweater). County Commissioner Kim Ellis also spent time with the seniors and helped pass out gifts.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
from our family to yours!!



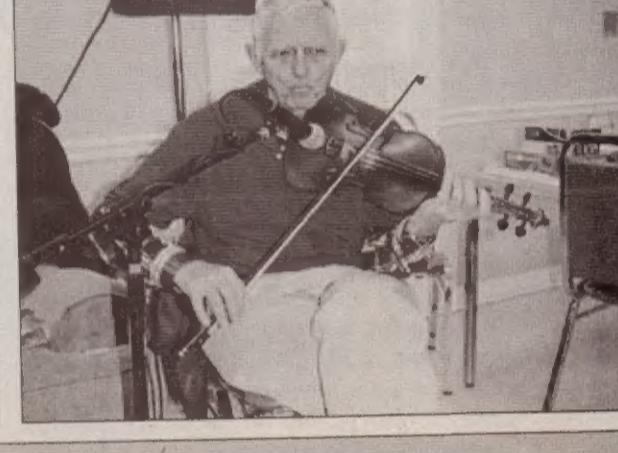
Elba Senior Center enjoys Christmas Open House event

The Elba Senior Citizens Center hosted a Christmas Open House event for its seniors on Monday, Dec. 10th.

The event featured a bake sale, and art projects completed by the seniors were on display for all to view and enjoy. Entertainment included a couple of 'favorites' for the Elba seniors – the Cow Pen Creek Bank and the Boll Weevil Dancers performed.

The seniors enjoy dancing along to the music and with the Boll Weevil Dancers, and center director Donna Falls always is working to make sure her crew has a good time (as shown to the right).

Below and to the right are a few scenes from this year's event...



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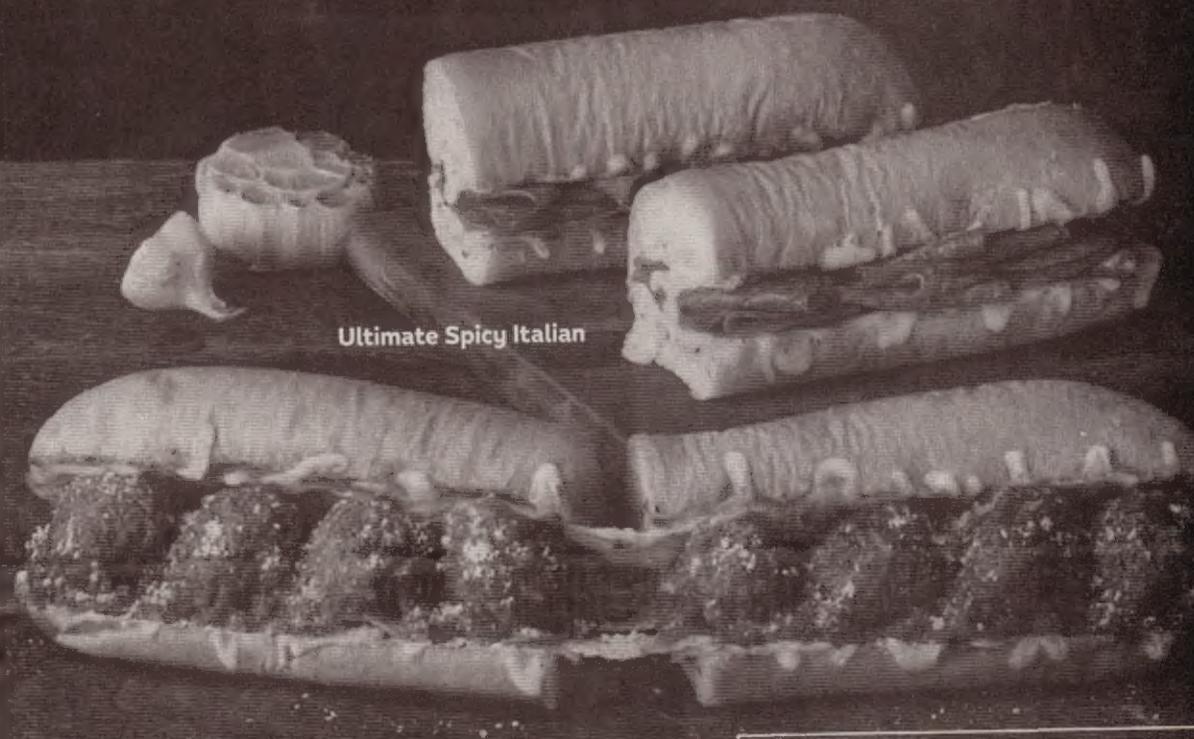
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SPORTS

VIEWS FROM THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

We took our grandson Lawson to visit Santa over the weekend and he told the jolly old man that the past year was 'my best year ever' and proceeded to give him a list of things he wanted for Christmas. He told us a couple of things he had already realized he needed next year, but I have to agree it has been a very special year. From all the Mularz Family **"MERRY CHRISTMAS."**

For what it is worth....

*** The Elba Tigers picked up two wins over the weekend at a tournament in Brantley before falling in the finals. The Tigers were able to get in an 'up and down' tempo in the two wins and easily rolled to the wins, but in the finals were slowed down by a packed in zone defense to stop the inside power of Alex Wright, and it worked as the Tigers scored only ten points in the first half and never recovered. As the season progresses I am sure the Tigers will see more and more teams back up in a zone on defense, and unless their shooters can connect from outside the zone there could be many more low scoring games that go down to the wire. Coach William Moguel stated before the season started that the 'real season' would start after the New Year, and that time is now here!

*** The Elba Lady Tigers bounced back from an opening loss at the Brantley tourney to post two big wins, and in doing so put an end to all thoughts of what had been a 4-game losing streak. The Lady Tigers lit up the scoreboard in impressive wins over Greenville and Highland Home, and maybe gave their fans a preview of things to come as the girls head into area play. The Lady Tigers play a fast-paced style and when they get rolling can be hard to beat. Let's hope they are now on a roll!

*** It was a busy week on the basketball court and a number of area teams enjoyed the chance to compete in tournaments. In boys' action, Kinston rebounded from a blow out loss to Slocumb to shock the Red Tops in the tourney finals, while Brantley picked up two wins in its own tournament and Zion Chapel got the chance to play three games and gain valuable experience. Over with the girls, Brantley remained on a roll and knocked off 2A defending state champ Samson on its way to the championship of its own event, while the Zion Chapel girls also got the opportunity to get in some extra work at the tournament. Area play is just around the corner for all area teams, and the chance to get in some extra work in holiday tournaments should pay dividends.

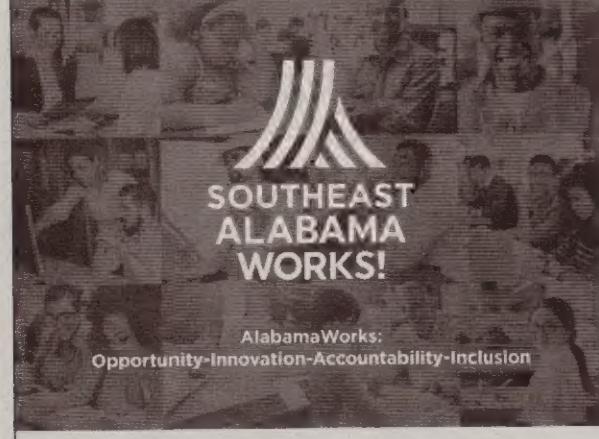
*** National signing day has come and gone with Elba's Alex Wright and Brantley's Parker Driggers putting their names on the dotted line to continue their careers at the next level. Wright signed with UAB and is expected to play the 'rush end' position with the Blazers, while Driggers is expected to play in the slot and at receiver with the Lions. Wright had only played high school football for three years and is considered to be an 'un-tapped' star at the next level, while Driggers has played all his life and is a true football player and teammate. Both should leave their mark at the next level.

*** In closing.... the high school 'All State' high school football teams will be named during the holidays and Elba is expected to place a number of players on the 1A list. The list was supposed to be released early in the week. So, look next week for the Tigers that earned statewide attention, and honors, as well as any other area players that may have received statewide accolades!

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Singletary honored

The 'Best of the Best'

The Dothan Eagle announced its annual "Super 12" high school football selections recently with Elba Tiger standout Richmon Singletary claiming 'Player of the Year' honors.

Singletary, a 6-1, 183-pound, senior, starred at Elba during the past season at running back, defensive back and as a kick returner, and helped lead the Tigers to an 8-3 record and a spot in the 1A playoffs.

During his senior season, Singletary rushed for 2,083 yards and 25 touchdowns, averaged 189.4 yards per game and 11.3 yards per carry. He set an all-time state record with six kickoff returns for touchdowns and piled up 688 yards in kickoff returns, the third most in state history. In addition, Singletary returned 10 punts for 261 yards and one touchdown, caught 6 passes for 60 yards, passed for 32 yards and one touchdown and scored five two-point conversions. Overall, the Tiger standout rolled up 3,124 all-purpose yards and scored 33 touchdowns.

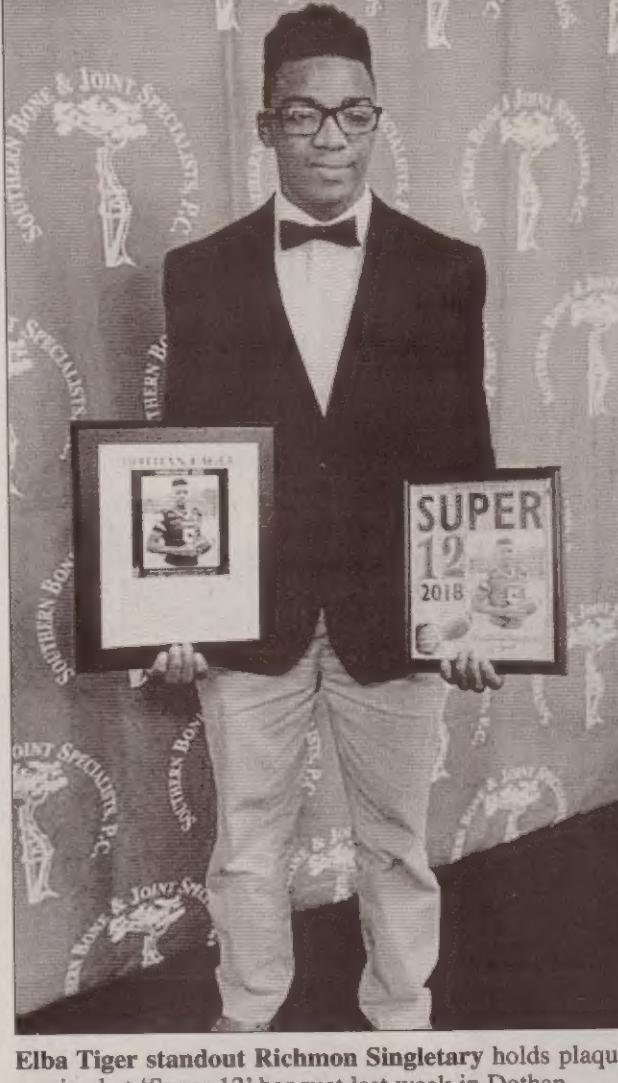
On defense, Singletary had 83 tackles, including six tackles for losses, and had four pass interceptions, with one returned for a touchdown. He added 11 pass deflections and one fumble recovery.

"It is an honor to be named the player of the year," stated Singletary.

"but it would not have been possible without my teammates and my coaches. My goal was to help the team win a state championship, and while we fell short of that goal we did have a pretty good season. I certainly didn't have plans to rush for 2,000 yards or set any state records, but it happened and again it was because of my teammates and coaches. Looking back, there were some things I could have done better, but overall I guess it was a pretty good season for me."

Elba Tiger head coach Pate Harrison said of Singletary, "He is a special person in more ways than one, and it was an honor to get the chance to coach him. He is a blessed athlete and a special person. It is not often that you can honestly say that your best player is also the best person. He would change the dynamics of the team for the good at team meetings, at the team meal and on the field. He makes people around him better on and off the field, and whatever college signs him with get a special person."

Other players named 'Super 12' included Grant Thornton, Enterprise; Jonathan Fells, Carroll; K'shun Stokes, Headland; Wise Gordon, Providence Christian; Spencer Smith, Providence Christian; Rayshawn Reynolds, Pike County; Hernando Wheeler, Pike County;



Elba Tiger standout Richmon Singletary holds plaques received at 'Super 12' banquet last week in Dothan.

(Submitted photo)

Daquon Kincey, Abbeville; Bryson Peavy, Ariton; Jalen White, Daleville; and, Jake Kinney, Northside Christian. Danny Raines, of Headland, was named the 'Coach of the Year.'

Elba's Alex Wright signs with UAB

Elba Tiger standout Athlete Wright completed a meteoric rise in the sport of football last week when he signed a football scholarship with the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

"It feels good to finally get to sign the papers," stated Wright, a three-year starter for the Tigers. "I now know I don't have to worry about all the recruiting anymore and that I will have a spot on the roster at UAB. UAB and Coach Clark had been with me from the start back in the tenth grade and they were always honest with me. They never beat around the bush and made promises, they just laid it out straight and let me know they had a place for me."

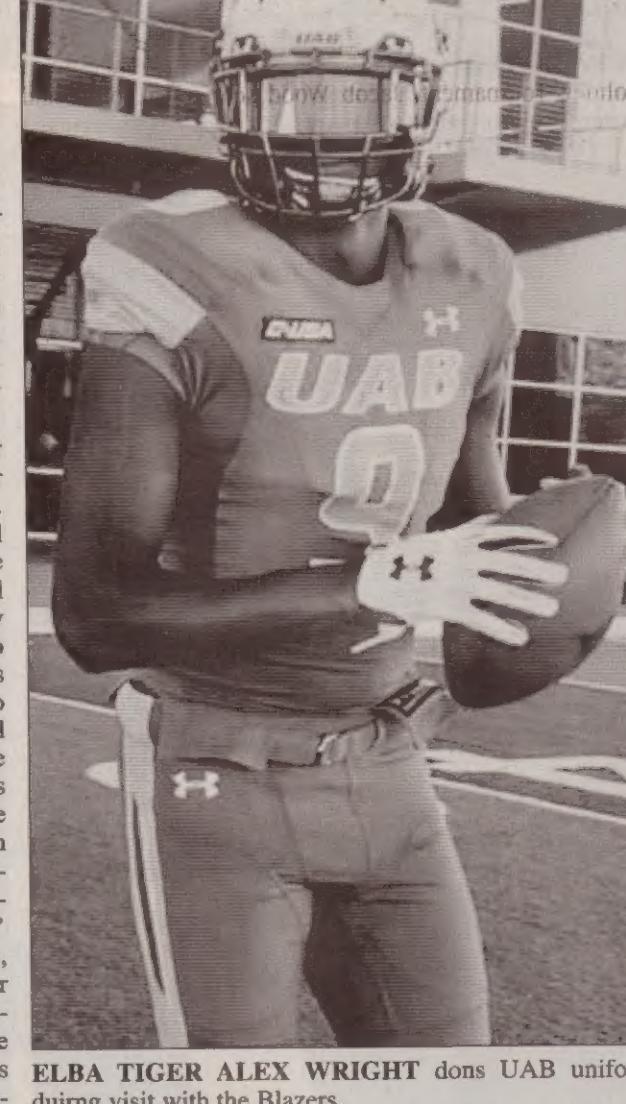
Wright, a 6-6, 232-pounder, senior, who is expected to play outside linebacker with the Blazers, had early offers from 17 colleges, including Vanderbilt, Wake Forest and Louisville.

"It just felt like family up at UAB and the coaches were great," added Wright.

"Coach Clark would always talk with me when he could, and other times the other coaches on staff would call and make time for me. I talked with every coach on staff at one time or another, and that made a difference. I just had a feeling that this would be my next home."

"The sky is the limit for Alex," stated Elba Tiger head coach Pate Harrison. "His potential is still untapped and at 6-6 once he puts on some weight he will have an NFL caliber body and skill set. If he will do everything up there he is supposed to there is no doubt in my mind he could be in the NFL some day. He is still a raw talent and has only played football three years. Before that he was in the band and played basketball. He is really still learning how to play the game."

Wright had 63 tackles, including 17 tackles for losses during his senior season, while on offense the tight-end caught 15 passes for 266 yards and 3 touchdowns.



ELBA TIGER ALEX WRIGHT dons UAB uniform during visit with the Blazers.

(Submitted photo)

Brantley's Driggers signs with UNA

Brantley Bulldog multi-sport standout Parker Driggers made his future plans official last week when he signed to play football at the University of North Alabama.

Driggers, a standout for the Bulldogs in football, basketball and baseball, was rated as a two-star athlete by 247 Sports and is expected to play receiver at UNA.

Driggers was named the Montgomery Advertiser 'prep football player of the week' for games played Sept. 6-7 after he completed 9 of 12 passes for 150 yards, rushed twice for 80 yards and one touchdown, and caught a 30-yard touchdown pass in a 39-0 win over Kinston.

A 6-0, 195-pound, senior,

Driggers played multiple positions, including running back, quarterback, receiver, linebacker, defensive back and punter at Brantley. As a senior, he rushed for 463 yards on 41 carries, caught 23 passes for 360 yards and 6 touchdowns and also passed for 271 yards and 4 touchdowns. He returned 20 punts for 580 yards and 2 touchdowns, and on defense recorded 53 tackles. As a punter, he averaged 40.2 yards per punt.

Driggers is also a standout on the Brantley basketball team and the Bulldog baseball team.



DRIGGERS SIGNS.... Sitting alongside North Alabama signee Parker Driggers (center) are proud parents Jeff and Laura Driggers.

(Submitted photo)

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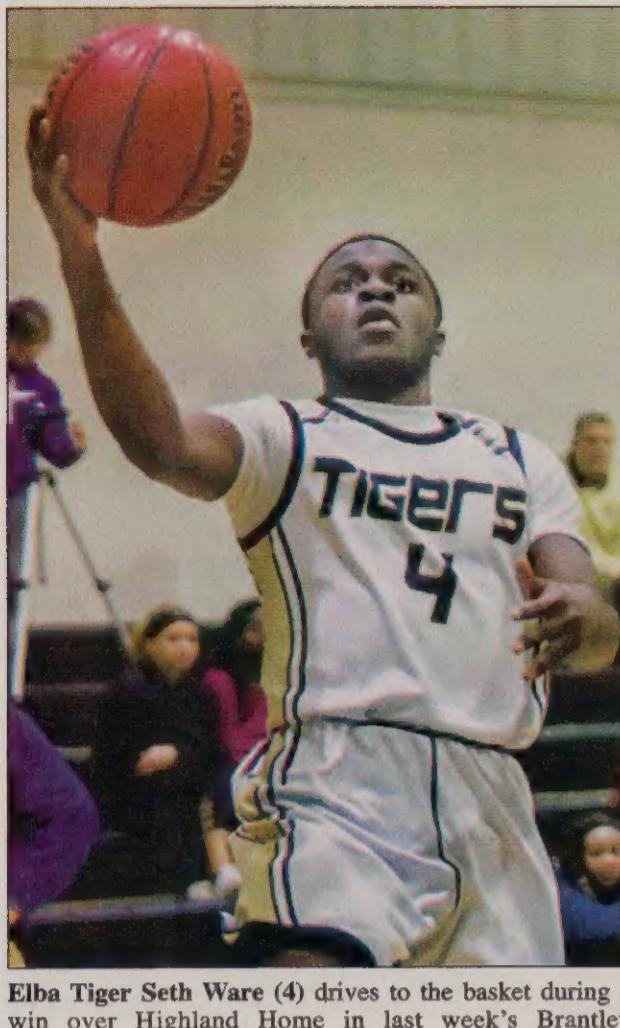
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Merry
Christmas!

SPORTS



Elba Tiger Seth Ware (4) drives to the basket during a win over Highland Home in last week's Brantley Christmas Tournament. The Tigers placed second at the seven-team event.

(Photo by BC Sports Photography)

At Brantley tourney

Elba Tigers settle for second

The Elba Tigers competed in the Brantley Thanksgiving Basketball Tournament last weekend, at Brantley High School, and rolled to wins over Highland Home 68-53 and Luverne 63-45 before falling to Straughn 35-29, in the finals, to bring home consolation honors in the seven-team event.

Following are highlights of the tournament action:

Elba 68 Highland Home 53

The Elba Tigers pulled ahead in the first quarter and then pulled away in the second half to claim a big 68-53 win over the Highland Home Flying Squadron, in opening round play.

Logan Medlock and Collin Harrison drained two 3-pointers, apiece; to spark an early Elba uprising that put the Tigers up 22-11 after one quarter of action. However, Highland Home rallied in the second stanza and poured in 18 points to cut the Elba lead to 31-29 at intermission.

Medlock and Harrison combined for three additional 3-pointers in the third quarter as the Tigers stretched their lead to 49-37, and Alex Wright and Richmon Singletary took over in the fourth quarter as the Tigers held on for the 68-53 win.

Logan Medlock scored 15 points to lead Elba, while Richmon Singletary added 14 and Alex Wright scored 11.

Elba (68): Roberson 2, Lane 1, Harrison 9, Ware 8, Singletary 14, Wright 11, Medlock 15, Hill 8.

H.H. (53): Stewart 14, Robertson 11, Gipson 5, Hall 3, Gordon 2, Harris 3, Q. Harris 5, Faulk 8, Jamord 2.

Elba 63 Luverne 45

The Elba Tigers pulled ahead early and never looked back to hammer Luverne 63-45, in semifinal action.

Logan Medlock and Collin Harrison both nailed 3-point-

In tournament action

Elba Lady Tigers post two big wins

The Elba Lady Tigers bounced back from an opening round loss to post two wins last weekend at the Brantley Christmas Basketball Tournament, at Brantley High School.

Following are highlights of the tournament games:

Luverne 54 Elba 49

The Elba Lady Tigers rallied to carry a slim lead into the final stanza, but then managed only five points in the fourth quarter and watched as Luverne rallied late to pull out the exciting 54-49 win.

The Lady Tigers trailed 13-9 after one quarter, but led by the play of A'Maysia Whitfield and Nina Williams poured in 34 points over the next two quarters to rally and carry a 43-40 lead into the final stanza. Elba cooled off in the fourth quarter; however, and Luverne never slowed down as the Lady Tigers fell in its tournament opener 54-49.

A'Maysia Whitfield scored 18 points and Nina Williams added 7 to lead Elba.

Luverne (54): Richardson 3, Johnson 4, Williams 12, Thomas 8, Means 3, Burnett 8, C. Johnson 16.

Elba (49): Gray 2, Williams 7, M. Gray 2, Whitfield 18, M. Williams 4, Hooks 4, Sanders 6, Baker 6.

Elba 74 Greenville 46

The Elba Lady Tigers exploded for 47 first half points to take command and coasted in with an impressive 74-46 win over Greenville.

The first quarter was played at a non-stop pace on both ends of the court as the Lady Tigers were able to grab a 21-18 lead, and Elba kept up its pace in the second stanza and led by the play of A'Maysia Whitfield and Makinna Gray went in at intermission with a big 47-31 advantage.

Sandrea Lindsey and Whitfield continued to provide a spark for the Lady Tigers in the third quarter as their lead grew to 65-40, and the Elba reserves got in on the action in the final stanza as the Lady Tigers claimed the wild 74-46 win.

A'Maysia Whitfield scored 28 points to lead Elba, while Nina Williams added 13 and Sandrea Lindsey added 10.

Elba (74): Williams 13, Gray 4, Lindsey 10, Whitfield 28, Hooks 8, Sanders 5, Baker 7.

G'ville (46): Glenn 22, Simpson 6, Bennet 3, Crenshaw 3, Rudolph 2, Stallworth 10.

Elba 58 Highland Home 32

The Elba Lady Tigers closed out tournament play with an impressive 58-32 win over Highland Home.

Freeda Hooks and Nina Williams sparked an early Elba

Brantley Lady Bulldogs are ranked 5th in state in 1A poll

The Alabama Sports Writers Association has announced its weekly high school basketball polls with the Brantley Lady Bulldogs ranked 5th in Class 1A.

Other area teams ranked in the statewide poll included (Girls) Eufaula, 7th in Class 6A; Charles Henderson, 1st in Class 5A; Geneva, 5th in Class 3A; Samson, 2nd in Class 2A; G.W. Long, 7th in Class 2A; Geneva County, 10th in Class 2A; Pleasant Home, 2nd in Class 1A; Flora, 7th in Class 1A; (Boys) Enterprise, 9th in Class 7A; Hillcrest-Evergreen, 1st in Class 4A; Ashford, 8th in Class 4A; Pike County, 9th in Class 3A; Abbeville, 4th in Class 2A; Barbour County, 6th in Class 2A; Georgiana, 4th in Class 1A; and, Flora, 9th in Class 1A.

Kinston edges Houston Academy 43-40

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs posted an impressive 43-40 win over Houston Academy. Courtney Lunsford scored 15 points and Faith Peter added 13 to lead Kinston, while Kate Andrews led Houston Academy with 12 points.

Lady Bulldogs stun Samson 41-34

The Brantley Lady Bulldogs improved their record to 12-1 with an impressive 41-34 win over Samson, to win the Brantley Christmas Tournament. Brantley trailed 7-6 after one quarter, but rallied to grab a 21-12 halftime edge and rolled to the win. Olivia Jones scored 19 points to lead Brantley, while Gabby Perkins added 7 points and grabbed 12 rebounds. Trinity Jenkins led Samson with 11 points.

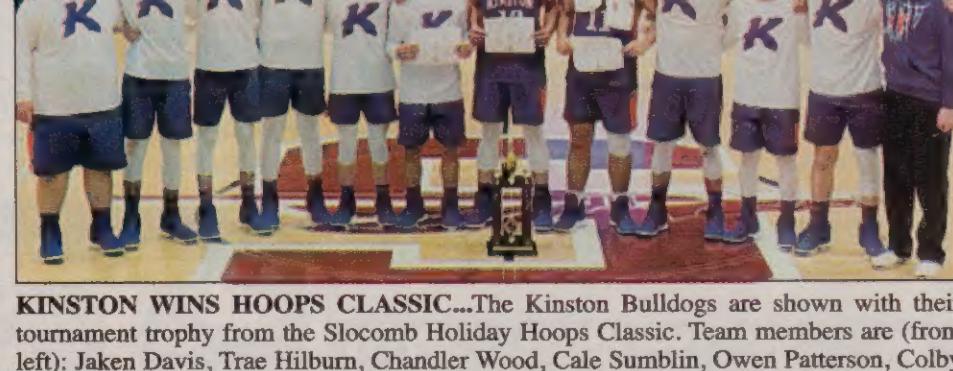
Kinston Bulldogs win Slocomb holiday tourney with win over Slocomb

The Kinston Bulldogs got a rematch with the Slocomb Red Tops last Friday night, Dec. 22, in the finals of the Slocomb Holiday Hoops Classic, and the Bulldogs made the best of it by defeating the tourney hosts 49-46 to bring home the championship trophy.

Jacob Wood led the Bulldogs with 18 points and Hunter Davis added 15 for Kinston. Wood was named the tournament MVP.

Davis and Colby Copeland each earned all-tournament nods.

The Bulldogs are led by Coach Daniel Hart.



KINSTON WINS HOOPS CLASSIC... The Kinston Bulldogs are shown with their tournament trophy from the Slocomb Holiday Hoops Classic. Team members are (from left): Jaken Davis, Trae Hilburn, Chandler Wood, Cale Sumblin, Owen Patterson, Colby Copeland, Jacob Wood, Hunter Davis, Ayden Wallace, Jeb Crosby, Colby Arnette, and Ben Rogers.

ers in the opening stanza to help the Tigers jump out to an early 15-6 lead, while Alex Wright and Charvez Hill flexed their muscles inside in the second quarter and combined for 10 points as Elba carried a 33-17 lead in at half.

Luverne cut into the lead slightly in the third quarter and pulled within 44-29, but Charvez Hill took command in the fourth quarter inside and scored 10 points in the stanza as Elba posted the impressive 63-45 win.

Charvez Hill scored 16 points and Alex Wright added 14 to lead Elba, while Collin Harrison and Richmon Singletary scored 9 points, each.

Elba (63): Roberson 4, Harrison 9, Ware 2, Sanders 1, Singletary 9, Wright 14, Medlock 8, Hill 16.

Luverne (45): Brantley 5, Hamilton 13, Wilson 9, Ezell 7, Gregory 2, McGhee 4, Brooks 5.

Straughn 35 Elba 29

The Elba Tigers had a hard time getting to the basket in a 35-29 loss to Straughn, in the tournament finals.

The Tigers scored only five points in both the first and second quarters and trailed 17-10 at intermission, and then added only eight points in the third quarter as Straughn stretched its lead to 28-18 heading into the final stanza. Richmon Singletary and Charvez Hill combined to score 11 points in the fourth quarter, but it was all the Tigers would score, as Straughn held on to claim the tourney title with a 35-29 win.

Richmon Singletary scored 9 points and Charvez Hill added 8 points to lead Elba.

Straughn (35): Ward 6, Peebles 17, Kelley 1, Cleland 8, Reynolds 3.

Elba (29): Ware 7, Singletary 9, Wright 2, Medlock 3, Hill 8.



Elba Lady Tiger Freeda Hooks (23) shoots despite defensive pressure in last week's tourney loss to Luverne.

(Photo by BC Sports Photography)

uprising that put the Lady Tigers on top 16-6 after one quarter of play, and while the scoring slowed in the second quarter, the Lady Tigers were able to carry a 25-13 lead in at the half.

A'Maysia Whitfield poured in 10 points in the third quarter to help Elba stretch its lead to 43-26, and six Lady Tigers scored in the final stanza as they remained in command and posted the 58-32 win.

A'Maysia Whitfield scored 20 points to lead Elba, while Nina Williams added 9, as nine players scored for the Lady Tigers.

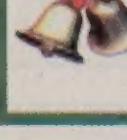
Elba (58): J. Gray 2, Williams 9, M. Gray 4, Lindsey 8, Whitfield 20, Edwards 1, Hooks 8, Sanders 5, Baker 1.

H. H. (32): Blair 5, Reese 26, Jones 1.

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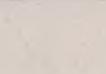


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COMMUNITY NEWS

Elba's Ben E. Keith Foods treats employees to Christmas party and hands out annual awards



Kaelyn Davenport, age 4, was all smiles when she got a chance to meet Santa at the Ben E. Keith Foods, Southeast Division, Christmas Party earlier this month.

Ben E. Keith Foods, Southeast Division, [Kelley's] in Elba held its annual Christmas Party for employees earlier this month at Elba Elementary School. This event is to thank employees for their hardwork throughout the year, and it also allows the company to bring its families together for good fellowship. Also, annual awards are presented to several employees during the event.

The event was reported to have been a good time for all.



The Ben E. Keith Foods (Kelley's) employees and their families found the food selections to be bountiful as they enjoyed time together earlier this month for the companies annual Christmas Party.



LINCHPIN AWARD... The annual Linchpin Award is presented to an employee that is considered vital to the organization, and this year's recipient was Keith Smith (left). Shown presenting the award is Scott Davidson (right), general manager of the Ben E. Keith Foods Southeast Division in Elba.



Registration table for the Ben E. Keith Foods Christmas Party for employees



Rayley Coulby shows off her Christmas necklace!



SUPERIOR BLEND AWARD... The annual Superior Blend Award for Ben E. Keith Foods, Southeast Division, in Elba was presented to Ryan King (right). Shown presenting the award is Kenneth Hattaway (left).



Employees and their families enjoying the Christmas meal together.



FREDDIE THOMAS LEADERSHIP AWARD... The annual Freddie Thomas Leadership Award for Ben E. Keith Foods, Southeast Division, in Elba was presented to Kaleb Richard (right). Shown presenting the award is Kenneth Hattaway (left).

2019
Happy New Year

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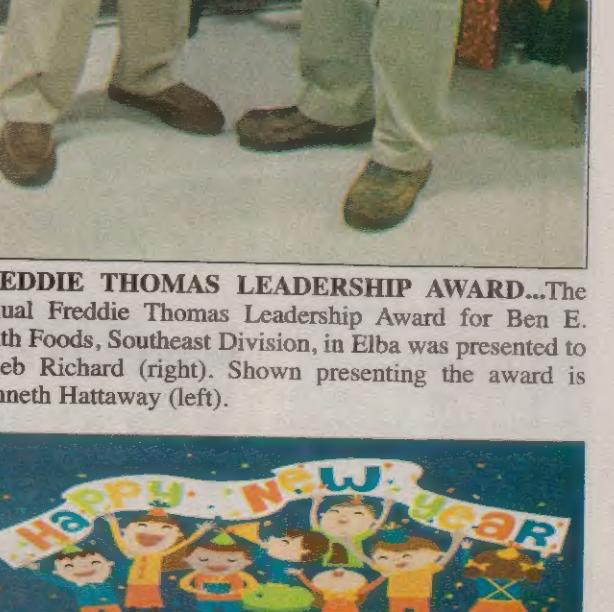
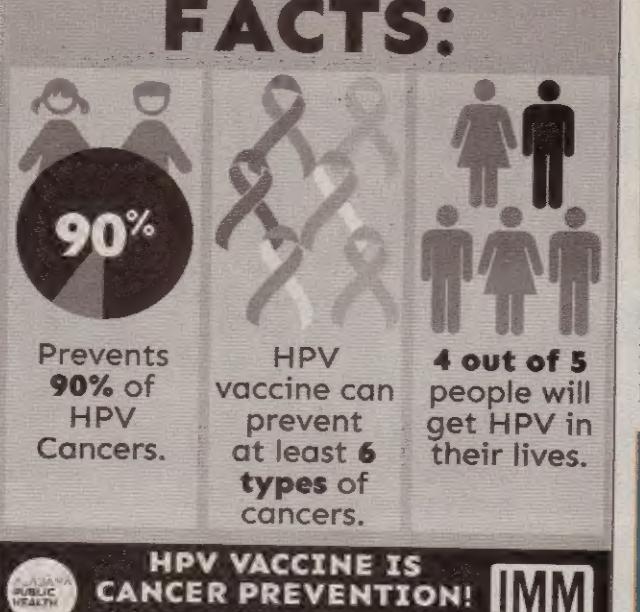
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Sally Bane, City Clerk